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WEATHER, p. 2 SAT: 43°F | 32°F Partly cloudy SUN: 44°F | 32°F Partly cloudy

Friday, March 1, 2013

# Nate Silver talks to a packed MIT crowd

Famous statistics guru shares his journey, plans, and philosophies

By Joanna Kao

A large crowd packed Bartos Theater last night for a talk with Nate Silver, hosted by Seth Mnookin and the MIT Communications Forum. The auditorium quickly reached its 190-person capacity, and many wannabe audience members were left to watch the live feed outside the

The two-hour event covered Silver's career path and his plans for the future, sprinkled with his somewhat deprecating commentary on political pundits and sites like *POLITICO*. The event was split in half, with Silver answering questions from Mnookin for the first half and then answering questions from the audience in the

Silver, statistician and polling analyst for *FiveThirtyEight*, began his talk by saying "It's a real honor to be here. It's a Ground Zero for nerds.

Silver talked about his first postcollege job as a consultant for KPMG and how he transitioned from the world of consulting to political blogger and statistics guru. Much of the talk was dedicated to how Silver started FiveThirtyEight, its transition to the Times, and his plans for the future.

In the second half, Silver took questions from the audience questions ranged from his thoughts on open-sourcing his model to his thoughts on the *Times'* graphics. Fans had the chance to take photos with, and get books signed by, Silver fol-

For more details on the talk, check out our photo spread on page 8.



Statistician and political blogger Nate Silver appeared last night before a packed auditorium to talk about the role of statistics in elections and politics, as well as his own career. Silver's fame skyrocketed late last year when his application of statistical techniques to polling data correctly predicted the outcome of the presidential vote in all 50 states (and the District of Columbia).

# SpringFest: a step up from weekends past

Less like a standalone concert, more like CPW

> By Stephanie Holden ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The recent announcement of Macklemore & Ryan Lewis as the headliners for this year's Spring-Fest spread like wildfire across the MIT campus. In addition to the concert, the Undergraduate Association (UA) Events Committee is working to make SpringFest, previously known as Spring Weekend, bigger and better than ever before.

Events Committee co-chairs Lindsey C. Osimiri '14 and Daniela M. Yuschenkoff'14 have grand plans for the weekend. They are partnering with student groups who have been a part of Spring Weekend in the past - such as SaveTFP, the International Student Association, and GaMIT — to host various events. The idea is to make SpringFest into a Campus Preview Weekend-style event, but for current MIT students. In order to accommodate these changes, the budget has increased from under \$133,000 to

"This year we are going for quality over quantity, because it's our first time for this push on making this an entire weekend experience," said Osimiri. They anticipate having around ten big events in addition to the concert, and if they are successful, the Events Committee may reach out to even more student groups in the future.

The reasoning behind these changes is simple: making students happy.

"The response to Spring Weekend has not always been super positive, and this is something on the committee that we really wanted to change," Yuschenkoff said. Booking a more recently popular artist was their first step in their efforts to make the weekend more desirable and exciting.

The UA Events Committee paid \$50,000 for Macklemore & Ryan Lewis to headline the Spring-Fest 2013 Concert. "MIT is in a very competitive environment and location when it comes to booking entertainment and with Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' huge rise and amazing success these past few months, we are very proud and excited to bring this duo to MIT in April," Yuschenkoff wrote in an email to The Tech. She and Osimiri confirmed that the opening act is being finalized and will be announced soon.

Pre-sale tickets opened to MIT students on March 1 and cost \$15 each. On March 8, the pre-sale period ends, and tickets will be \$20 for MIT students

Spring Weekend, Page 7

## MIT ranks 11th in alumni donations

#### MIT Annual Fund raised \$37.2 million from alumni in 2012

By Anne Cai EDITOR IN CHIEF

In 2012, MIT raised \$34,795 per student. This puts MIT as the 11th highest fundraiser when compared to other reporting U.S. colleges and universities, according to a press release last week from the Council for Aid to Education (CAE), Stanford University, which received the most total contributions with \$1.03 billion in fundraising, ranked fifth with \$55,745 per student. Yale University, California Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and Harvard University ranked 7th, 8th, 17th, and 18th, respectively.

While fundraising by U.S. institutions increased by 2.3 percent - only slightly ahead of inflation — that increase was driven by donations from foundations (up 5.5 percent), corporations (up 4.6 percent), and non-alumni individuals (up 3.1 percent). 47.2 percent of institutions reporting to the CAE indicated a decline in total fundraising over the past year. Overall alumni giving declined 1.3 percent, and the average alumni gift decreased by 1.4 percent, and alumni participation also dropped from 9.5 percent in 2011 to 9.2 percent in 2012.

MIT, too, followed this trend in declining alumni giving.

According to numbers provided by Steve McAlister, Director of the MIT Annual Fund, capped donations (which do

Donations, Page 15

### 100 Uncapped donations Capped donations 80 millions of \$

**Alumni Donation** 

INFOGRAPHIC BY IUDY HSIANG

MIT followed the national trend in declining alumni giving from 2011 to 2012. Capped donations do not count contributions past \$100,000. Uncapped donations for 2011 and 2012 are not yet reliably available, as those include both commitments and pledges (future promises of giving).

#### IN SHORT

with Macklemore & Ryan Lewis are now on sale for MIT students only. Get them at http://mit.univer $sitytickets.com/user\_pages/event.$ *aspx?id=251&cid=36&p=1*.

The Fung Wah Bus has suspended service by order of the US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The company is still permitted to run buses chartered from other companies, but as of press time, you can no longer buy tickets online. The company voluntarily took 21 of its 28-bus fleet out of service last week for repairs following inspections. On Monday, the FMCSA declared the

entire fleet to be an imminent safety hazard to its passengers and issued Pre-sale tickets for SpringFest 2013 an order to cease operating the vehicles specified in the order. If you were planning on taking advantage of the \$15 one-way fares to NYC in the near future, you'll unfortunately have to look elsewhere.

> Free graduate entrance practice exams for the GRE, LSAT, MCAT, and **GMAT will be given this Saturday** in E51. Register online at *bit.ly/s2013mit*.

> Add Date is in a week! Turn in your forms by 5 p.m. Friday, March 8 at the Student Services Center, 11-120.

> Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

#### Half of Longfellow Bridge to close from Summer 2013 to Fall 2016

According to the Mass. Department of Transportation, its board of directors approved a construction contract for final rehabilitation of the Longfellow Bridge. During the construction, according to the Boston Globe, the bridge will only accommodate one lane of cars traveling from Cambridge into Boston. One outbound lane will be a feature of the finished bridge, which will have wider bike paths and sidewalks. For the first phase of the project, slated to last from the start of this summer to Winter of 2014 or 2015, Cambridge-bound traffic will be redirected to the Craigie Bridge, which sits next to the Museum of Science. For the remainder of the project, the opposite side of the bridge will be closed, but vehicular traffic will still be restricted to

flowing inbound. The Red Line will also be truncated at both ends of the bridge for 25 weekends once construction begins, said the Globe. Shuttle buses will be available to carry citizens across the river during these weekends, and temporary track will be put in place to allow the train to run at normal capacity on the weekdays.

The rehabilitation is part of the Patrick-Murray Accelerated Bridge Program, which will remove Longfellow and other bridges from the "structurally deficient" list. The project also includes the construction of a new pedestrian bridge over Storrow Drive. According to the Globe, the construction project must be completed by Sept. 30, 2016.

— Bruno B. F. Faviero

#### **CUSTOMIZING THE BRASS RAT**

What symbols are appropriate for the Brass Rat?

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The Tech's point-counterpoint continues. OPINION, p. 4

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Need one? Go to Atomic Bean Café! ARTS, p. 10



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What's the most popular utilization of Hayden Library's resources? FUN, p. 12

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Let's all fawn over Jennifer Lawrence. Again. As usual. ARTS, p. 9

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# Europe won't change to satisfy critics, EU leader suggests

BRUSSELS — The man who represents the 27 leaders of the European Union warned Thursday of widespread opposition to steps that may be necessary to keep Britain as a member of the bloc

Herman Van Rompuy, the president of the European Council, said he saw "no impending need to open the EU treaties" to address the complaints of countries like Britain that are outside the eurozone and that object to "federal Euroland" rules governing the Union.

"Nor do I feel much appetite for it around the leaders' table," Van Rompuy said, according to the text of a speech he delivered Thursday evening in London at the Policy Network, a center-left research organization.

An aide to Van Rompuy said the comments were meant to underline that there was no immediate need to change EU treaties to ensure the stability of the euro, and that the comments were not referring to any demands for treaty change that Britain may seek in the future.

Still, Van Rompuy's remarks appeared to be a pointed warning to Prime Minister David Cameron, who in January promised British voters a referendum within the next five years on whether to stay in the Union on revised membership terms, or to leave.

Cameron's stance is widely regarded as a bet that his country is big and important enough to win concessions from the bloc, including a change in the EU treaty if necessary. But a number of European leaders, as well as critics in Britain, have also warned that Cameron could lose that gamble and end up overseeing the country's voluntary exclusion from the Union. Van Rompuy also faulted the British approach as overly confrontational in a bloc that has a long tradition of consensual decision-making.

"How can you possibly convince a room full of people when you keep your hand on the door handle?" Van Rompuy said, without naming Cameron, according to the advance copy of his speech.

—James Kanter, The New York Times

# Mississippi mayoral candidate found dead

ATLANTA\_A 22-year-old man was charged with murder Thursday in the death of an openly gay, African-American candidate for mayor in the Mississippi Delta.

The Coahoma County Sheriff's Department said in a statement that Lawrence Reed, 22, a resident of Clarksdale, Miss., was under investigation for the death of Marco McMillian, 34, the mayoral candidate in the same town. Police say they have no reason to suspect his death was a hate crime.

Medical experts Thursday performed an autopsy of Mc-Millian, whose body was found beside a levee this week near the historic Delta blues town. He was reported missing after his car was involved in a head-on collision this week on Highway 49.

Officials from the Sheriff's Department released few details about how, or why, McMillian had died. The levee where he was found protects Clarksdale from the Mississippi River floodwaters and was miles from the traffic accident involving the candidate's sports utility vehicle.

The victim's family was left to reach their own conclusions. "I believe it was political," said one family member, who requested that his name not be used because he was asked by police not to speak to the media. "Maybe some people didn't want him to run. Maybe he was a threat. They wanted Clarksdale to stay the same." The relative declined to elaborate.

The Sheriff's Department declined to say whether Reed had been at the wheel of McMillian's vehicle Tuesday morning when it collided with another car near the Tallahatchie County line. The driver of that car was treated at a hospital and released, the authorities said.

—Robbie Brown and Timothy Williams, The New York Times

# In a first, experiment links brains of two rats

By James Gorman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In an experiment that sounds straight out of a science fiction movie, a Duke neuroscientist has connected the brains of two rats in such a way that when one moves to press a lever, the other one does, too — most of the time.

The neuroscientist, Miguel Nicolelis, known for successfully demonstrating brain-machine connections, like the one in which a monkey controlled a robotic arm with its thoughts, said this was the first time one animal's brain had been linked to another.

The question, he said, was: "Could we fool the brain? Could we make the brain process signals from another body?"

The answer, he said, was yes.

He and other scientists at Duke, and in Brazil, published the results of the experiment in the journal Scientific Reports. The work received mixed reviews from other scientists, ranging from "amazing" to "very simplicatic"

Much of Nicolelis' work is di-

rected toward creating a full exoskeleton that a paralyzed person could operate with brain signals. Although this experiment is not directly related, he said, it helps refine the ability to read and translate brain signals, an important part of all prosthetic devices connected to the brain, and an area in which brain science is making great advances.

He also speculated about the future possibility of a biological computer, in which numerous brains are connected, and views this as a small step in that direction.

The experiment involved extensive training for both rats, with water as a reward. One, the so-called encoder rat, learned to press one of two levers, left or right, in response to a light signal over the correct lever. The second, or decoder rat, also learned to press either the left or right lever in response to light, but then went on to respond instead to brain stimulation from his rat partner.

For the experiment, recording electrodes were implanted in the primary motor cortex of the encod-

er rat and stimulating electrodes in the same area in the decoder rat.

Then, as the encoder responded to the light appearing over one lever or the other, its pattern of brain activity was sent to a computer, which simplified the pattern for transmission to the decoder rat. The signal received by the decoder was not the same as the stimulation it had previously received in training, Nicolelis said. Seven out of 10 times, the decoder rat pressed the right lever.

The researchers reported similar results in other experiments, based on whether the rats sensed a narrow or wide opening with their whiskers. In this case the electrodes were implanted in a different part of the brain, where sensory signals are received.

Ron D. Frostig, a neuroscientist at the University of California, Irvine, said, "I think it's an amazing paper." He described it as a "beautiful proof of principle" that information could be transferred from one brain to another in real time — not by mind-reading or telepathy, but a transfer of what might be called the impulse to act.

# Riots in Bangladesh follow death sentence for Islamic leader

By Julfikar Ali Manik and Jim Yardley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Violent clashes between angry mobs and security forces erupted across Bangladesh on Thursday, leaving at least 35 people dead, after a special war crimes tribunal handed down a death sentence to a fundamentalist Islamic leader for crimes against humanity committed 42 years ago, during the country's 1971 war of independence from Pakistan.

The verdict against Delawar Hossain Sayedee, a leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami party, resonated across the country. It was celebrated by the hundreds of thousands of protesters who have taken to the streets in recent weeks to demand justice in the war crimes cases, insisting that those who were convicted be hanged.

"This verdict is a victory for the

people," declared Imran H. Sarkar, a blogger and organizer of the protests, during a rally on Thursday afternoon. But followers of the Jamaat party reacted with fury, saying the case brought against Sayedee and other party leaders was politically motivated and tainted by judicial irregularities. Jamaat leaders called a nationwide strike Thursday to protest the verdict, and by afternoon bloodshed had erupted across the country, as party workers fought with police in the streets.

The protests for and against Jamaat have convulsed Bangladeshi politics, demonstrating that the country has still not healed from the bloody 1971 conflict, when an estimated 3 million people were killed and thousands of women were raped. Prior to the war, Bangladesh was East Pakistan, separated from the rest of that country by a wide expanse of India; the war pitted Bangladeshi separatists against

Pakistani soldiers and local collaborators, who were known then as Razakar Bahini.

"As judges of this tribunal, we firmly hold and believe in the doctrine that justice in the future cannot be achieved unless injustice of the past is addressed," Justice A.T.M. Fazle Kabir commented in a written summary of the judgment.

The International War Crimes Tribunal has now convicted three Jamaat leaders in connection with the war, and other cases are still under way, including some against defendants not affiliated with the party. Sayedee, 73, is a well-known religious speaker with a bright red beard who became a member of the Bangladeshi parliament after the war. He was accused by prosecutors of involvement in looting and burning villages, raping women and forcing members of religious minorities to convert to Islam during the war.

#### WEATHER

# Repetitive weather patterns ahead

By Vince Agard
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

In the movie *Ground-hog Day*, Bill Murray plays a weatherman who is stuck in a loop, seemingly doomed to repeat the same day of his life over and over again.

In a meteorological sense, this weekend will seem like *Groundhog Day*, as the same weather repeats itself day after day. The low pressure system that brought us a drenching rainfall earlier this week is forecast to park itself off the coast of the Canadian Maritimes today, and stay there for the foreseeable near future. This setup will result in a light but steady northerly wind, high temperatures in the low-to-mid 40s °F, and a slight chance of rain or snow showers every day. This pattern is expected to persist at least through the middle of next week.

#### **Extended Forecast**

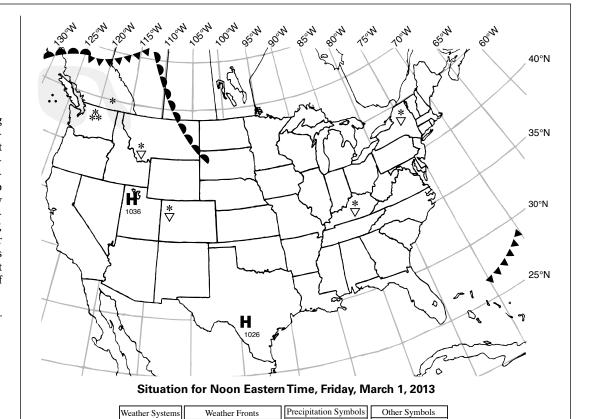
**Today**: Partly cloudy with a chance of rain or snow showers, high 42°F (6°C). Winds N at 5–10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a chance of rain or snow showers, low 33°F (1°C). Winds NW at 5–10 mph.

**Tomorrow**: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or snow showers, high 43°F (6°C). Winds NW at 5–10 mph.

**Sunday**: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or snow showers, highs in the mid 40s °F (7°C).

Monnday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or snow showers, highs in the mid 40s °F (7°C).



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Thunderst

Compiled by MIT

# Voting law decision could sharply limit scrutiny of rules

By Charlie Savage
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — If the Supreme Court strikes down or otherwise guts a centerpiece of the Voting Rights Act, there will be far less scrutiny of thousands of decisions each year about redrawing district lines, moving or closing polling places, changing voting hours or imposing voter identification requirements in areas that have a history of disenfranchising minority voters, voting law experts say.

A close look at the law demonstrates how a series of seemingly technical details amount to what is essentially a safeguard against violations in those states and regions covered by the law — most of which are in the South.

It also shows how that very bulwark comes at the cost of sharply tilting the playing field against those areas in ways that several conservative-leaning Supreme Court justices expressed alarm about during arguments Wednesday.

The legal issue turns on two main parts of the act: Section Five,

which covers jurisdictions with a history of discrimination, and Section Two, which covers the entire country. Both sections outlaw rules that intentionally discriminate against or otherwise disproportionately harm minority voters. Section Two would remain in effect even if the court strikes down Section Five.

But reliance only on Section Two would mean a crucial difference in how hard it may be to block a change in voting rules in an area that is currently covered by Section Five. Those jurisdictions, because of their history of discrimination, must prove that any proposed change would not make minority voters worse off.

By contrast, under Section Two, the burden of proof is on a plaintiff to demonstrate in court that a change would prevent minorities from having a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

"Getting rid of Section Five is not getting rid of voting rights; it would just make voting rights litigation look like normal lawsuits," said Ilya Shapiro, a legal scholar at the Cato Institute, which filed a friend-ofthe-court brief urging the court to strike down Section Five. "It would mean that if the federal government claims people have been harmed, it would have to prove it."

But J. Gerald Hebert, who formerly handled voting rights litigation for the Justice Department and is now in private practice, said that losing Section Five would be "devastating to protecting voting rights" because the costs of a lawsuit are so steep.

Jon Greenbaum, the legal director for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said it would mean that the bulk of changes that now receive automatic scrutiny by the federal government could take effect without any review, eliminating a deterrent against mischief.

"Section Five makes all the voting changes public and transparent, because when they are submitted for preclearance, the Justice Department will call local folks in the community and get their take on it," Greenbaum said. "If you have no Section Five, a lot of stuff will just go under the radar."

# Japan to begin restarting idled nuclear plants, leader says

By Martin Fackler

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TOKYO — Japan will begin restarting its idled nuclear plants once new safety guidelines are in place later this year, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Thursday, moving to ensure a stable energy supply despite public safety concerns after the Fukushima disaster.

In a speech to Parliament, Abe pledged to restart nuclear plants that pass the tougher guidelines, which are expected to be adopted by a newly created independent watchdog agency, the Nuclear Regulation Authority, as early as July. However, he did not specify when any of the reactors might resume operation. News reports have suggested that it might take months or even years to make the expensive upgrades needed to meet the new safety standards.

All of Japan's 50 operable nuclear reactors were shut down following the March 2011 triple meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, which spewed radiation across northern Japan after a huge earthquake and tsunami knocked out vital cooling systems. Two were later restarted as an emergency measure to avert power shortages in the heavily populated region that includes the cities of Osaka and Kyoto.

Responding to public safety concerns, leaders from the previous Democratic Party government had vowed to slowly phase out nuclear power by the 2030s in favor of cleaner alternatives like solar and wind power. However, Abe, who took power after his Liberal Democratic Party won national elections in December, has vowed to shelve the planned phaseout, saying that Japan needs stable and cheap electricity from nuclear power to compete economically.

On Thursday, Abe said that Japan had learned the need for tougher safety standards from the Fukushima accident, which forced more than 100,000 people to evacuate. He said the new safety standards will

be enforced "without compromise." Abe also said Japan would continue seeking energy alternatives to reduce its dependence on nuclear power, without going so far as to eliminate it.

In January, the new nuclear agency released a list of its proposed new safety regulations, which include higher walls to protect against tsunamis, additional backup power sources for the cooling systems and construction of specially hardened earthquake-proof command centers. According to a report by the newspaper Asahi Shimbun, none of Japan's 16 undamaged commercial nuclear plants would currently pass those new standards.

The newspaper said making the necessary upgrades to meet the proposed guidelines would cost plant operators about \$11 billion, in addition to improvements already made after the Fukushima accident. The agency has said the new guidelines will be finalized and put in place by July 18.

# Criticism aside, Michelle Obama plans new PE project

By Jennifer Steinhauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO — Michelle Obama announced the name of the best picture via satellite for the Academy Awards ceremony in order to promote the arts among children, her principal constituency, she said in an interview on Thursday. And if people did not like it, she added, that does not bother her.

"We are going to approach those filmmakers to do things for kids in this country," she told a small group of reporters during a two-day, three-city trip to promote her antiobesity campaign for children, including a new initiative to increase physical education in schools. "I want to connect with those people, and then I want to pull them in."

She chalked up criticism of her Oscar cameo and other recent television appearances to the modern media era and the public's fascination with her activities. "My bangs set off a national conversation," she acknowledged.

"It doesn't have anything to do with me," she said. "Anyone in this position has a huge spotlight, and in modern-day media the spotlight just gets more intense. I don't attribute this to me or Barack. The culture has just shifted."

She elaborated on what being part of the first African-American couple in the White House — and one of the iPhone generation — had meant so far.

"We're a young couple, we have young kids, we grew up with limited means," she said. "Our stories are the stories of so many faceless, voiceless people."

She added, "My life isn't new, but it's new to a lot of people who haven't seen this up close and personal."

In the interview, held in a conference room at the McCormick Place convention center in Chicago, the first lady also hinted at a more international second-term agenda.

But she said that whatever work she would do in the second term would probably build on her efforts to help children.

"I am powerfully moved by children," she said. "I need to have them in my life. They keep me focused, they keep me directed." She added that "if I do anything internationally I want it to dovetail with the work I do domestically," making certain that "my time outside of the country is linking back and being real to people here."

Obama has largely tried to stay out of hot-button issues like gun safety.

"The question becomes who defines what's contentious and controversial," she said. "I can't think along those notions because everyone's definition of what's controversial is different."

She added, "What I don't want is just to do something to satisfy someone's idea of what's controversial."

# US economy barely grew in 4th quarter, revision shows

Breathe a tiny sigh of relief, if not exactly contentment: the U.S. economy grew just barely in the last quarter of 2012.

Output expanded at an annual rate of just 0.1 percent, which is basically indistinguishable from having no growth at all and is far below the growth needed to get unemployment back to normal. But at least the economy did not shrink, as the Commerce Department had originally estimated last month, when the first report suggested that output contracted by an annual rate of 0.1 percent.

The department's latest estimate for economic output, released Thursday, showed that growth was depressed by declines in military spending (possibly in anticipation of the across-theboard spending cuts set to begin Friday) and the amount that companies restored their stockroom shelves.

"The good news with business inventories is that what they take away in one quarter they tend to add to the next," said Paul Ashworth, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics, referring to the measure of this restocking process. "So there's a good chance that first-quarter numbers will be better than originally thought."

The output growth number was revised upward from the original estimate partly thanks to updated, and improved, data on business investment and net trade. Imports were lower than previously reported and exports were higher.

Economists expect that government spending will continue to drag on the economy this year, especially if Congress does not avert the spending cuts, which would shave around 0.6 percentage point off growth. Many are hoping that even if the cuts go through, Congress will reverse them in short order.

—Catherine Rampell, The New York Times

# After pledging loyalty to successor, Benedict leaves Vatican

VATICAN CITY — Benedict XVI ceased to be pope at 8 p.m. local time (2 p.m. Eastern) Thursday when his resignation took effect, leaving the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church vacant while its leading clerics consider who should succeed him.

Benedict left the Vatican by helicopter Thursday afternoon to spend the final hours of his scandal-dogged papacy and the first of his retirement at a summer residence used by popes for centuries. Onlookers in St. Peter's Square cheered, church bells rang and Romans stood on rooftops to wave flags to see him off as he flew from Rome to the summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, a hilltop town southeast of the city.

More carillons heralded his arrival there, and he was greeted by a vivid contingent of silver-suited firemen, gendarmes in red capes, and bishops in black and pink.

Addressing cheering well-wishers from a window at the residence, he said: "Dear friends, I am happy to be with you! Thanks for your friendship and affection! You know this is a different day than others."

Earlier in the day, in one of his concluding acts, Benedict addressed a gathering of more than 100 cardinals who will elect his successor, urging them to be "like an orchestra" that harmonizes for the good of the Roman Catholic Church. From a gilded throne in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace, the pope thanked the cardinals collectively, and then rose to greet each of them individually.

Many of them were appointed to their powerful positions as so-called princes of the church by Benedict or by his predecessor, John Paul II, and are seen as doctrinal conservatives in their mold.

"Among you is also the future pope, whom I promise my unconditional reverence and obedience," Benedict told the cardinals

—Rachel Donadio, The New York Times

#### Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act passes

WASHINGTON — The House voted Thursday to pass the Senate's bipartisan reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, in a big victory for President Barack Obama and Democrats in Congress

The legislation passed on a vote of 286-138, with 199 Democrats joining 87 Republicans to push the reauthorization of the landmark 1994 law, which assists victims of domestic and sexual violence, across the finish line.

Though the reauthorization passed the Senate earlier this month with 78 votes — including those of every woman, all Democrats and just over half of Republicans — a version unveiled by the House last Friday immediately came under sharp criticism from Democrats and women's and human rights groups for failing to include certain provisions offered in the Senate bill.

The House bill excluded specific protections for gay, bisexual or transgender victims of domestic abuse — eliminating "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" from a list of "underserved populations" that face barriers to receiving victim services — and stripped certain provisions regarding Native American women on reservations.

Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, the majority leader, had committed to passing the legislation in the House only with bipartisan support. On Tuesday night, with House Democrats firmly united against the Republication version, the House Rules Committee approved a bifurcated process to consider the Senate legislation; on Thursday, the House first voted on its substitute amendment and then, when that version failed to pass, it took up and passed the Senate version.

On Thursday, Democrat after Democrat stood on the House floor, urging their colleagues to reject what they said was the weaker House version and to vote for the underlying Senatepassed bill.

Rep. Gwen Moore, D-Wis., a victim of domestic and sexual violence, spoke passionately about the need to pass the Senate's reauthorization bill.

—Ashley Parker, The New York Times



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#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

#### **Excessive symbolism** in recent Brass Rats?

I was glad to see in the recent article on the 2015 Ring Premiere that MIT students continue to show enthusiasm for the Brass Rat. However, studying the ring design, I see a continuation of a problem seen in recent years: too much of a good thing. My class was the first to introduce the concept of the MIT and Boston skylines depicted

on the front and back edges of the ring, so I know how enjoyable it is to have unique features and details on the ring. Unfortunately, recent classes seem to be going overboard by trying to cram too much symbolism into one ring, at the expense of clarity and aesthetics. The Brass Rat should certainly embody some allegories of what makes MIT a unique place, but trying to commemorate national and world events that just happen to coincide with a certain couple of years seems like a stretch. The

death of Steve Jobs (2014)? Hurricanes (2015)? And with over two years before graduation, will the ring be re-designed to incorporate news events that happen between now and then?

To future classes, I just suggest you ask your ring committee to ponder what you would like to wear on your finger for the rest of your life: a classy marker of your achievement at MIT, or a hodgepodge metallic trivia quiz?

Tim M. Dawson-Townsend '90.

#### POINT/COUNTERPOINT

# Should students carry firearms in an effort to curb gun violence?

#### The best protection from guns is one of your own

By Tea Dorminy GUEST COLUMNIST

"You know, we wouldn't be nearly as panicked if we all had guns."

That thought kept running through my head as I tried to commute to work across MIT on Saturday morning. The rumor of a man with a gun was discomfiting, certainly, but much more so because nearly everyone at MIT is defenseless against any gun. Yet many think the correct response is to ban guns altogether.

Instead, I would suggest that MIT students and faculty be encouraged to carry. As recently as 1950, MIT students were required to take and pass two full years of military science classes, which exposed them to weaponry firsthand. Even today, rifle is one of the most popular PE classes at MIT. Switzerland has mandatory military training, and also has one of the lowest homicide rates in the world. By making concealed carry training mandatory, MIT could make its campus the safest in Massachusetts.

#### Firearm safety classes should be a GIR.

"What?! But MIT already has a police force dedicated solely to protecting us! And especially in cities, police are always only a few minutes away." True, but every second counts when bullets fly. If someone opens a classroom door and begins shooting, it will be the work of only a few minutes before the police no longer matter to the people in that room. No police force in the world is where at once

"We're private citizens, though; only the police need guns." But why do the police carry guns? They don't go around dispensing vigilante justice, shooting handcuffed prisoners who obviously recently committed murder. They carry guns because they know guns are the best defensive measure against an armed attacker, and they only use their gun (hopefully) if they are being attacked with similarly lethal force. The late philosopher Ronald Dworkin said one mark of a good government is one with equal concern for every citizen — is my life less important than that of a police officer? If so, am I not permitted to defend myself as well as a police officer can?

We are adults. We are capable of acting safely and treating others equally in the eyes of the law. MIT should encourage its students and faculty to carry, so that we can best preserve our truly unique community. We're trusted to work at the nuclear reactor; can't we be trusted to preserve our own lives? We could even add a gun safety class as a GIR to cement our safety training and knowledge of how to respond to a hostile gunman.

Gun permits can be obtained through the local police department. One must complete a Massachusetts certified firearms safety course or a basic hunter education course. Furthermore, the local police department can impose any other limitations as it sees fit.

To carry on campus, however, requires additional permits. Under Massachusetts law, chapter 269, section 10(j), "Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer ... carries on his person a firearm as hereinafter defined, loaded or unloaded or other dangerous weapon in any building

Dorminy, Page 5

## Data and morality support the need for gun control

By Ryan Normandin STAFF COLUMNIST

The United States already has the highest rate of gun ownership in the world. There are about 89 guns per 100 citizens, and in 2011, 34 percent of adults owned a gun and 47 percent of adults live with a gun in the house. The United States also ranks eleventh worldwide in total firearm-related deaths, with not a single country ahead of us categorized as "developed" by the United Nations. Given this data, how is there any reasonable expectation that giving even more guns to Americans will somehow lower the rate of firearm-related deaths?

The reason that there is a debate over this issue in the first place is because we all recognize that America has a problem: lots of people die from guns. We disagree on how best to solve this problem because the data we have is mixed, confusing, and ultimately unclear. We cannot pinpoint why America has such a culture of violence; does it stem from our past, violent video games and movies, some combination of factors, or something we haven't even considered? Given a complete lack of compelling evidence for any action, it seems unwise to jump to the conclusion that we need more of what's causing the problem in the first place.

The catchphrase supporting this policy seems to be that "the best way of stopping a bad guy with gun is a good guy w gun." This is not supported by evidence. We have no

idea how many times a year Americans actually defend themselves with guns; estimates seem to suggest anywhere from 25,000 times to 250,000 times. In fact, some studies suggest that we defend ourselves 2.5 million times a year, although the consensus on that study, run by Gary Klick, is that his methodology resulted in a gross overestimate, and should be closer to 250,000 times per year. It is estimated that, of these, about a fifth is made up of police officers defending themselves (at least between 1987 and 1990). However, we know that in 2009, 66.9 percent of homicides were committed with a gun. We know that two thirds of all suicides in the country are caused by guns. So why are some of us so eager to hand out more guns when we have no idea how that will affect our gun-violence problem?

#### The morals of increasing gun ownership concern me.

While the data certainly does not support increasing gun ownership, the morals of doing so also concern me. Martin Luther King Jr. has an excellent quote that can be applied directly to the issue of guns; I am quoting in full because I believe that to take only an excerpt would not do it justice:

"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to d

Normandin, Page 5

#### **OPINION POLICY**

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Sarah Ritter, Editor in Chief Anne Cai, Managing Editor Ian M. Gorodisher, Executive Editor Deborah Chen, and Opinion Editor Jacob London.

Dissents are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@ tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or

condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech's Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

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## How should we attempt to prevent gun violence?

Take responsibility for your own safety

Dorminy, from Page 4

or on the grounds of any ... college or university without the written authorization of the board or officer in charge of such elementary or secondary school, shall be punished by a fine..." Thus, anyone who can legally carry in the State of Massachusetts can petition the MIT Chief of Police to give them written authorization to carry on MIT property.

I urge you to protect yourself. Be safe, take a gun safety class, get a license, petition MIT. Take responsibility for your own life and safety, and make MIT lockdowns a thing of the past.

Tea Dorminy is a member of the Class of

Editor's Note: In accordance with written policies and procedures, "firearms, air rifles, air pistols, b.b. guns, ammunition and tazers are not permitted on MIT property or in any Institute-approved living group."

Those who advocate increased gun usage are giving up on the effort to solve this problem

Normandin, from Page 4

stroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. So it goes. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

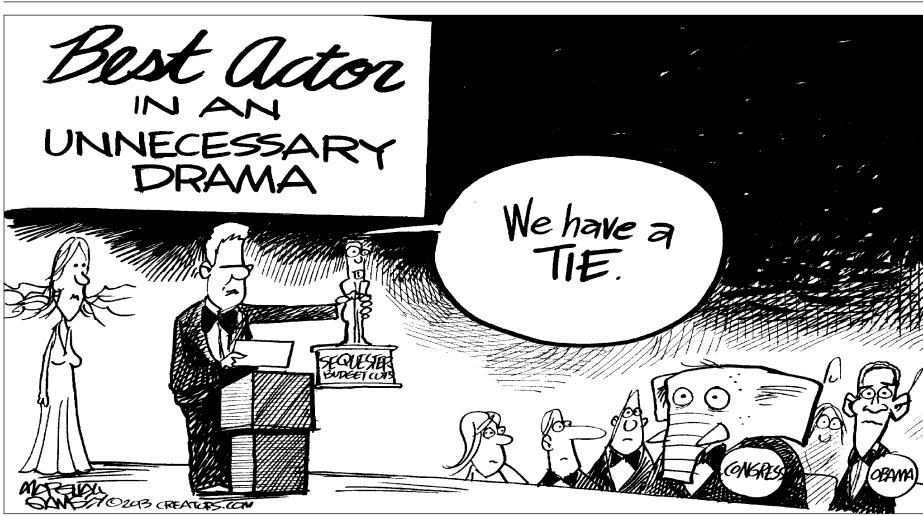
Honestly, we don't know whether giving everyone guns would solve the problem of gun violence. But even if it did, is that really the best we can do? This country claims to be a moral compass for the world, but the best way we can answer violence is with violence? This country claims to have some of the brightest minds on the planet, and the best we can do is give our citizens sticks to beat off the other citizens with sticks? This country spends more on defense than the next 19 nations combined, but we can't convince our citizens not to kill each other? Must we truly resort

Some of us are too eager to encourage gun usage when we have no idea how that will affect the problem.

to such a band-aid approach, such a bruteforce solution? Why can't this country, with all of its wealth and brilliance, move forward in an effort to find and address the roots of this problem? Why don't we fix the disease, instead of just attempting to mask the symptoms?

Most political issues evoke my passion for one side or the other. It drives me crazy

that we're not doing enough for education, we're ignoring the poor, and that Wall Street gets away with its white-collar crimes. Yet, on most issues, both sides have at least some value in their position. I really do believe, perhaps naively, that the vast majority of politicians and citizens honestly do want to make this country a better place; they just disagree on how to do it. But when I hear people tell me that the way to fix gun violence is to hand out guns to everyone, it just makes me sad. It makes me sad because I'm hearing from that person that they've given up on finding a real solution. They're telling me that they don't believe that we can figure out how to fix what appears to be a cultural problem. They're telling me that, even in the absence of evidence, they're willing to throw violence and fear at a problem that is, quintessentially, one of violence and fear. As a people, I have to believe that we are better than that.







Friday, March 1, 2013
The Tech 7

# Spring Weekend to become SpringFest

#### Invited Macklemore for \$50,000

Spring Weekend, from Page 1

and \$25 for non-MIT students.

There is also an incentive for MIT students to invite friends from other schools to attend. All non-MIT students will be asked if they received a referral from an MIT student. Any MIT student who refers five or more non-MIT friends to purchase tickets for the concert will be entered in a raffle for free Macklemore "swag." The person with the most referrals will be offered "a unique and awesome concert experience," wrote Yuschenkoff in an email to *The Tech*.

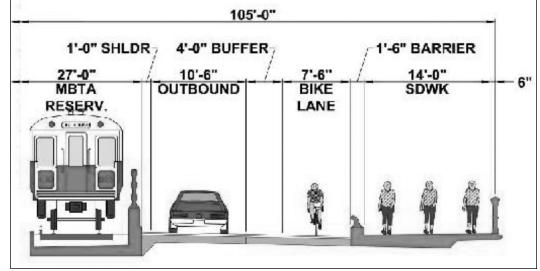
"Macklemore has been doing very well and selling lots and lots of tickets, so buy them fast!" said Yuschenkoff. Many schools hosting Macklemore & Ryan Lewis have sold over 4,000 tickets in their first week of sales.

"Not everyone on campus is going to like an artist, but if we get more groups involved in the weekend, everyone can say they had fun during SpringFest," Osimiri said. "On a nice spring day, you see people on Kresge playing sports and studying outside, and when you add a concert and a carnival, MIT students are happy and have a great time!"

Tickets can be reserved at http://mit.universitytickets.com/user\_pag-es/event.aspx?id=251&cid=36&p=1.

Last year's total SpringFest budget	\$132,992
The All-American Rejects	\$100,500
A Rocket To The Moon	\$1,000
This year's estimated SpringFest budget	\$149, 500
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis	\$50,000
Opening Artist	< \$50,000

#### **Longfellow Bridge during construction**



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

This graphic was presented last March, as part of a contract update, showing one of the proposed layouts of the outbound side of Longfellow Bridge. During construction, half of the bridge will be closed at a time, and there will be only one lane of outbound traffic in addition to the sidewalk, bike lane, and temporary T tracks.



# Even The Tech needs tech support

and we're looking for some. join@tech.mit.edu



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DEADLINE March 8, 2013

PARTICIPATE

1) Fold cool origami model(s)



2) Submit model(s) to W20-443



3) Wait for judging results



\*\* 4) Win awesome prizes! \*



5) Be exhibited at Wiesner Gallery

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arts.mit.edu/cast/sss

8 THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013



1) Much of the talk focused on the development on *FiveThirtyEight*, its beginnings at the *New York Times*, and Silver's thoughts on its future. In 2007, Silver felt that politics was still "stuck in the stone age and not data-driven at all." That year, he started blogging under a pseudonym, Poblano ("I always liked Mexican food"), for *Daily Kos*. Silver said that he went public later because he wanted to capitalize on it and also potentially shift careers. When Silver shifted his blog to the *New York Times* in mid 2010, daily traffic didn't skyrocket — on his

http://bit.ly/MITNateSilver

first day at the *Times*, he only got 500 pageviews. After a profile in *Newsweek*, he got 5,000 pageviews. He peaked on election day 2012 with 3 million page views — it has come back down since then. Silver's three-year contract with the *New York Times* ends in July this year. Mnookin asked him about his future plans and whether he would continue into the 2016 election. "I'm in active discussions with the *Times*. It's a great fit in a lot of ways. Jill is a perfect editor. Anything can happen in negotiation. But we'll see. I'm pretty happy there," Silver said. Silver talked about the pros and cons of working at the

Times. Silver praised the graphics team that he works with to visually present his stories and praised the *Times* for its journalistic standards and reputation. However, he also spoke about how it could also be a downside. "Everyone comes after the *Times*. It's the New York Yankees basically. The less obvious downside of that is that sometimes it's hard to be kind of casual at the *Times*." Silver says that with a blog, you can be "farting around." But at the *Times*, "you can get in more trouble for that kind of thing. People treat it as more authoritative, so it's harder to find that voice," Silver said.



THE TECH 9 FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013



Alan Arkin, Bryan Cranston, Alexandre Desplat, Ben Affleck, Grant Heslov, and George Clooney accept the Oscar for Argo

## The 2013 Oscars

#### Recapping the 85th Academy Awards

By Yü Linlin Huang STAFF WRITER

I have not missed a single Oscars award ceremony since 2002, and as a devoted viewer, it's no surprise that I watched them again this year. Feb. 24, 2013, marked the 85th presentation of the annual Academy Awards to highlight cinematic achievements. The red carpet leading into the Dolby Theatre (formerly the Kodak Theater) held the attention of the public as celebrities sauntered down its length adorned in luxurious evening gowns and smartly tailored suits. My favorite dresses this year was one worn by Amanda Seyfried, designed by Alexander McQueen, and another worn by Jennifer Lawrence, designed by Dior. Both of these gowns were white, and decorated with subtle, intricate floral patterns. The Dior dress resembled a huge layered cake,

carefully iced around the edges.

This year's host, Seth MacFarlane, is known for his famous television series Family Guy, American Dad!, and The Cleveland Show. He kicked off the show with the help of Captain Kirk (William Shatner), who had come from the future to prevent him from ruining the Academy Awards with his profanity and borderline offensive jokes. After the initial skit with Shatner, the ceremony turned back to business. The first Oscar award was presented to Christoph Waltz for the role of best supporting actor, followed by an Oscar to Paper Man for best animated short.

Instead of leggy, homogenous models carrying the gold statues, this year's trophy carriers were six college students who competed in an essay contest for their chance to be on the red carpet. The contestants to the essay contest were presented with the prompt: "How will you con-



COURTESY OF MICHAEL YADDA/@A.M.P.A.

The Oscar for best actress goes to Jennifer Lawrence, for her role in Silver Linings

Tech Predictions: Did we get it right? **Best Picture** Argo Les Miserable ††† Amour <u></u> Django Unchained !! Lincoln !! Zero Dark Thirty **Best Director** Ang Lee Life of Pi Michael Haneke *Amour* [] Steven Spielberg Lincoln | | | | **Best Actor** Daniel Day-Lewis Lincoln Denzel Washington Flight **Best Actress** Emmanuelle Riva Amour Quvenzhané Wallis † † † Beasts Of The Southern Wild Jennifer Lawrence Silver Linings Playbook © A.M.P.A.S Naomi Watts The Impossible Jessica Chastain Zero Dark Thirty

Ten members of The Tech's Arts Department attempted to predict the Academy

Awards, à la Nate Silver. We weren't quite on target.

THE OSCARS

to give people who actually care about the future of films the opportunity to carry the trophies, rather than the usual models The Oscars progressed with the perfect balance of performance spectacles and award

tudents entered the contest, and the six

winners attended their first rehearsal on

Wednesday. One of the lucky six included

Hearin Ko, a sophomore at Boston's Em-

erson College. The co-producers Neil Mer-

on and Craig Zadan created the challenge

Following the traditional Academy Awards format, the Oscars progressed with the perfect balance of performance spectacles and award presentations. Some notable performances include the song "Skyfall" by Adele, "One Day More" by the cast of Les Misérables, "All That Jazz" by Catherine Zeta-Jones from Chicago, and "Dreamgirls" by Jennifer Hudson. My favorite part was when the famous teddy

presentations.

INFOGRAPHIC BY ANNIA PAN

tribute to the future of film?" Over 1,100 bear from TED showed up and presented awards in the unmistak MacFarlane (with MacFarlane's normal caliber of offensive jokes, of course).

As always, the most prestigious awards were left to the end. Contenders for best actress included Jessica Chastain (Zero Dark Thirty), Jennifer Lawrence (Silver Linings Playbook), Emmanuelle Riva (Amour), Naomi Watts (The Impossible), and 9-year old actress Quvenzhané Wallis (Beast of the Southern Wild). The prize went to Jennifer Lawrence, who tripped on her way up to the stage to receive her Oscar. Best actor contenders were Bradley Cooper (Silver Linings Playbook), Daniel Day-Lewis (Lincoln), Hugh Jackman (Les Misérables), Joaquin Phoenix (The Master), and Denzel Washington (Flight). Daniel Day-Lewis won the category and gave an eloquent acceptance speech.

Finally, the last category rolled around just before midnight EST. It's always fun to predict the winner of these categories, and I've noticed a pattern from watching past awards: the one to win best original screenplay will probably also win best picture. This year, the pattern continued, with Argo winning both best original screenplay and taking home the Oscar for best

**RESTAURANT REVIEW** 

# HIPSTER COFFEE CAFÉ

Where to go when you need a break

By Sophie Chung

When I need a thoroughly non-MIT place to escape to, Atomic Bean Café is one of my favorite places ever. Tooling may be a way of life but I too, need my regular dose of free WiFi, delicious espresso, and even ridiculous pastries made with kale.

Right down Mass. Ave., in Atomic Bean Café you're as likely to find people working on their laptops as you are to find chatting with the person next to them. Low-key, the background music consists almost exclusively of bands with two names (e.g. Belle and Sebastian), animal names (Grizzly Bear), or names that make no sense (Passion Pit).

What sucked me in here? A chocolate and rhubarb croissant. I didn't know what rhubarb was either, but Google and my own taste buds quickly informed me that rhubarb is 1) a tart vegetable that is often categorized as a fruit and 2) a delicious complement to chocolate. Since then, I've tried a different croissant almost every time I have been there. Special treatment received upon ordering such a pastry includes: toasting it in a panini press, slices of freshly cut pineapple, and deliciously ironic glares from **Atomic Bean Café** 904 Mass. Ave., Cambridge Weekdays open 7 a.m. — 7 p.m.

a cashier who looks like the offspring of April Ludgate and Ron Swanson of Parks and Recreation.

What really sets this place apart is the atmosphere. It feels more hipster than Flour, more laid back than Voltage, more relaxed than Tatte. While I love these places all very dearly in their own way, I'll come to Atomic Bean Café when I need to crank out an essay on my laptop, decide to free-write and reflect eloquently on my life (750words.com is fantastic for this), or sip tea and pretend I'm working while actually catching up on the latest episode

Highlights: any of the pastries made with kale — really. Vietnamese coffee.

Staples: chai tea latte, clam chowder, the bacon egg and cheddar pastry.

Good for: writing, coding, catching up on emails, and impressing wannabe hipster friends.



Atomic Bean Café is the perfect place to wind down. It's great for its chill music, free Wi-Fi, and delicious Vietnamese coffee and specialty kale pastries.

# Ever feel like you like stuff before it's cool?

# Why not write about it?

(and then we will publish it, and then *everyone* will like it, so of course you won't like it anymore, but that's okay because you can tell everyone you "liked it before it was cool," and that's the whole point, right?)

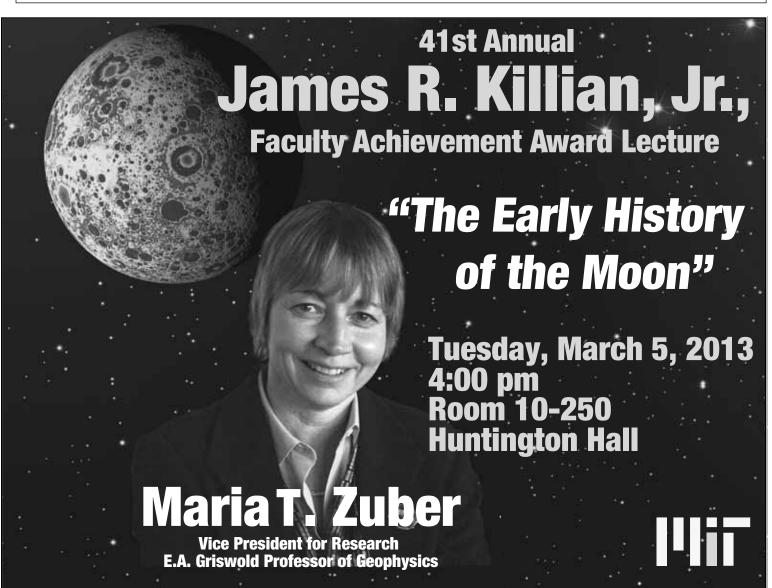
join@tech.mit.edu

#### **Nomadic sculpture at MIT**



This spring, a 30-pound hand-carved pink granite sculpture has come to MIT. The nomadic piece changes title according to its location, and is currently titled "I am Mit, as I am in Mit, just like a lot of other people are" with deliberate miscapitalization. While here, the sculpture will be "hosted" by a different community member each week, who will fill out a lending card to record its travels. The work is part of Amalia Pica's current exhibition at The List Visual Arts Center, and explores concepts of collective participatory art, and interventions into public space.

COURTESY OF MARK LINGA



# Pigeon Comics



© 2013 Hesham Zaini and Zaid Zayyad

## **UPPERCUT** by Steve Sullivan







## Sudoku

Solution, page 14

8					4			1
	4	1			6		3	
		2		5				
4	9	3				8		
7		6				1		3
		8				9	4	2
				4		7		
	7		2			4	1	
6			9					5

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

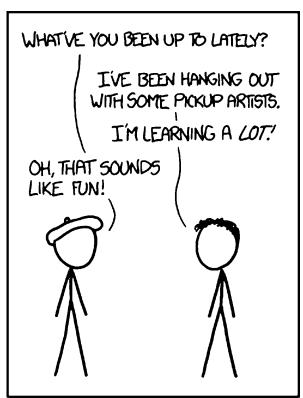
#### **Techdoku**

Solution, page 15

15+	12×	2–		6×	1	
			į			
		11+	:		12×	
	10×		3	<b></b>		
6×		9+	<u> </u>	1–		
	2÷	-	<del></del> i	20×	:	
	4×	<del>-                                    </del>	60×	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	
	17^				i	
		į				
		!		<u> </u>	1	

just kidding, (o).





we saw on

awesome

opera at the

Met. That was

that was football

THE WORLD SEEMS LIKE A HAPPIER PLACE IF YOU THINK "PICKUP ARTIST" IS LIKE "PICKUP BASKETBALL PLAYER".

Friend Zone you keep talking about? I wanna go! It sounds like a great way to make friends! Is it near that

## Not Quite Right by Fred Piscop

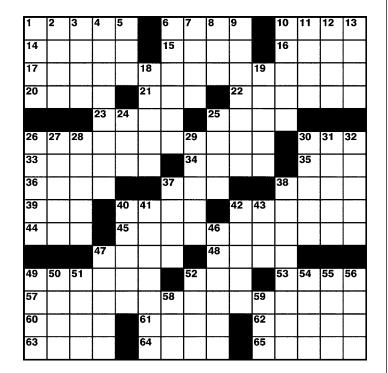
Solution, page 14

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Winfrey's production
- company 6 Progeny: Abbr.
- 10 Wimbledon surface
- 14 Parting word
- 15 Ticklish Muppet
- 16 Diva's piece
- 17 City SE of Jackson 20 Iowa State's home
- 21 Casino roller
- 22 "Beats me"
- 23 Takes an axe to
- 25 Primer, for example
- 26 Bank form
- 30 "Turn up the heat!"
- 33 Begin again
- 34 In vigorous health
- 35 Baseball great Gehrig
- 36 Grates on
- 37 Puppy's cry
- 38 Rolaids alternative 39 Fish story
- 40 As compared to
- 42 Is wild about
- 44 Guided
- 45 TLC reality show tyke
- 47 Coffeehouse music
- 48 Roll-call count
- 49 2007 Peace Prize sharer
- 52 Royal Navy designation 53 Bulk
- 57 Culprit in California quakes
- 60 Serving-platter shape
- 61 45th state
- 62 Nostalgic number
- 63 Nutrition Facts section 64 Anti-fur org.
- 65 Stadium hoverer

#### **DOWN**

- 1 "You're a riot!"
- 2 Sistine Chapel ceiling subject
- 3 Formal act



- 4 Rabbit retailers 5 Aristide's assent
- 6 Stop
- 7 Hamburg's river
- 8 Big East's Mustangs
- 9 Frying medium 10 Get out of town
- 11 Very dry
- 12 Sapient
- 13 Launcher of Mars rovers
- 18 Fictional Drood
- 19 Hit the roof
- 24 GPS reading
- 25 Thunder sound
- 26 Repetitive practice
- 27 Hair-raising
- 28 Prodded
- 29 Be brilliant 30 Brief ad

31 Beau

37 Sharp pull

41 In hiding

42 Deep pit

- 47 Stable newborns 49 Starting from

43 Female hamster

46 Kawasaki competitor

32 \_\_-Japanese War

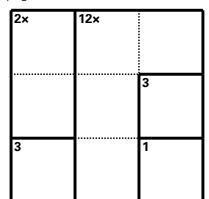
38 III-fitting, in a way

40 Botanical barb

- 50 Flowing rock
- 51 Airborne pest
- 52 Caloricity 54 Autobahn auto
- 55 Meager
- 56 Marching pace
- 58 USPS assignment 59 Watch pocket

## **Baby Techdoku**

# Apprentice Techdoku Solution, page 15



60×			54×	 	28×	4
2	<u> </u>	5	<b>-</b>	7	<u>-</u>	5×
126×		42×		5+		<b>-</b>
	28×		5×		12×	
3	<u> </u>	120×		<u> </u>	90×	6×
4÷	<u> </u>	7	<del>-</del>	12×	<b></b>	
6+		2÷	<u> </u>	<b>-</b>		7

**Novice Techdoku** Solution, page 15

2– 80× 6× 15× 40× 15×

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains one of each of the numbers 1 to 3, 5, 7, and 9 respectively. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

## Sensei Techdoku

Solution

288×	I	8×	75×	;	;	252×	:	i
	 			 	 		 	1
	-		- 100	 	<u> </u>		 	
	8÷		189×	 		3–	 	2
							! !	
	1	12×	11+		29+	! !	1	20×
						; ; ;	; ! !	
2–	<u> </u>	<b>-</b>		9+	- <b>!</b>	<b>T</b>	· - <del> </del>	
	 				1 1 1		1 1 1	
8×	┪	<del>19+</del>		23+	!	!	6×	
	- 5		36×		<del>-</del>	· - <del> </del>	336×	-
				1 1 1		 		 
<del>2</del> 9+				23+	_	! !	<b>-</b>	‡
<b>2</b> 3+	:	:		23+	!	!		
	į	<u> </u>	<del>i</del>	<u> </u>	; <del> </del>	· - <del> </del>		
45×	; ; ;		8×		; ; ;	21×	1 1	į
	!				 		 	 
10+	1	9	<b>-</b>	24+	i I I	1	i ! !	 
					 	 	 	1

**14** THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013

# **Abraham** the Common Father of Jews, **Christians** and Muslims?



Biblical Scholar: Prof. Jon D. Levenson Harvard Divinity School Albert A. List Professor of Jewish Studies

#### Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 7:15 pm

W11—Main Dining Room, Corner Amherst and Mass. Ave.

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## MIT Interfaith Dialogue



# Linked genetic base for mental illnesses

#### Five types of mental illness linked

By Gina Kolata

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The psychiatric illnesses seem very different — schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, autism, major depression and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Yet they share several genetic glitches that can nudge the brain along a path to mental illness, researchers report. Which disease, if any, develops is thought to depend on other genetic or environmental factors.

Their study, published online Wednesday in The Lancet, was based on an examination of genetic data from more than 60,000 people worldwide. Its authors say it is the largest genetic study yet of psychiatric disorders. The findings strengthen an emerging view of mental illness that aims to make diagnoses based on the genetic aberrations underlying diseases instead of on the disease symptoms.

Two of the aberrations discovered in the new study were in genes used in a major signaling system in the brain, giving clues to processes that might go awry and suggestions of how to treat the

"What we identified here is probably just the tip of an iceberg," said Dr. Jordan Smoller, lead author of the paper and a professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. "As these studies grow, we expect to find additional genes that might overlap."

The new study does not mean that the genetics of psychiatric disorders are simple. Researchers say there seem to be hundreds of genes involved and the gene variations discovered in the new study

only confer a small risk of psychiatric disease.

Steven McCarroll, director of genetics for the Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, said it was significant that the researchers had found common genetic factors that pointed to a specific signaling system.

"It is very important that these were not just random hits on the dartboard of the genome," said McCarroll, who was not involved in the new study.

The work started in 2007 when a large group of researchers began investigating genetic data generated by studies in 19 countries and including 33,332 people with psychiatric illnesses and 27,888 people free of the illnesses for comparison. The researchers studied scans of people's DNA, looking for variations in any of several million places along the long stretch of genetic material containing 3 billion DNA letters. The question: Did people with psychiatric illnesses tend to have a distinctive DNA pattern in any of those locations?

Researchers had already seen some clues of overlapping genetic effects in identical twins. One twin might have schizophrenia while the other had bipolar disorder. About six years ago, around the time the new study began, researchers had examined the genes of a few rare families in which psychiatric disorders seemed especially prevalent. They found a few unusual disruptions of chromosomes that were linked to psychiatric illnesses. But what surprised them was that, while one person with the aberration might get one disorder, a relative with the same mutation got a different one.

#### **Solution to Crossword**

Н	Α	R	P	0		D	Ε	S	C		L	A	W	N
Α	D	_	Ε	U		E	L	М	0		Α	R	_	Α
Н	Α	T	T	I	E	S	В	U	R	G	М	I	S	S
Α	М	E	S		D	ı	E		N	0	I	D	Е	Α
			Н	E	W	S		C	0	A	T			
D	Ε	P	0	S	I	Т	S	L	1	Р		В	R	R
R	E	0	P	E	N		H	A	L	E		L	O	Ū
I	R	K	S			Υ	I	Р			T	U	М	S
L	ī	E		T	Н	A	N		Α	D	0	R	E	S
L	Ε	D		Н	0	N	Ε	Y	В	0	0	В	0	0
			F	0	L	K		Α	Υ	E	S			
Α	L	G	0	R	Ε		Н	М	S		М	Α	S	S
S	Α	N	Α	N	D	R	Ε	Α	S	F	Α	U	L	T
0	٧	A	L		U	T	A	Н		0	L	D	T	E
F	Α	T	s		Р	Ε	T	Α		В	L	T	М	Р

#### Solution to Sudoku

	8	6	7	3	2	4	5	9	1
	5	4	1	8	9	6	2	3	7
		3	2	7	5	1	6	8	4
	4	9	3	5	1	2	8	7	6
	7	2	6	4	8	9	1	5	3
	1	5	8	6	3	7	9	4	2
	2	8	5	1	4	3	7	6	9
	3	7	9	2	6	5	4	1	8
	6	1	4	၅	7	8	3	2	5
١,									

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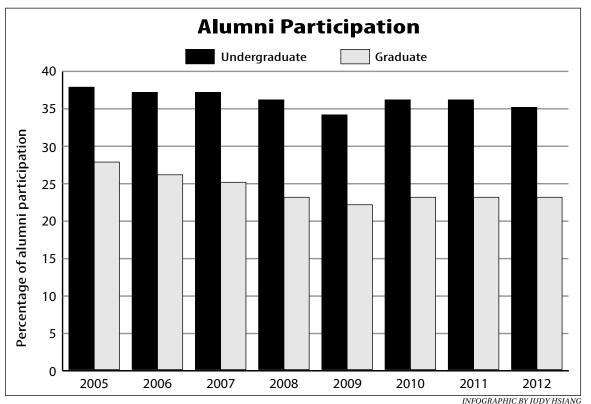
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Friday, March 1, 2013



The percentage of undergraduate alumni donors to the MIT Annual Fund has decreased slightly in recent

## years, while since 2010, the percentage of exclusively graduate alumni donors has remained relatively stable.

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# Alumni donations decreased in 2012

# Overall annual fund increased, but lower alumni participation

Donations, from Page 1

not count contributions past \$100,000) from MIT's undergraduate and graduate alumni decreased 7.6 percent from \$40.3 million in 2011 to \$37.2 million in 2012. The percentage of undergraduate alumni participation also decreased from 36 to 35 percent, while graduate alumni giving remained essentially the same

#### The total MIT Annual Fund donations sum to \$50.3 million.

However, the total MIT Annual Fund donations in 2012 sum to \$50.3 million — an 8 percent increase from the previous year. MIT's alumni donations go into the Annual Fund. Prior to 2009, this was the MIT Alumni Fund,

but the board of the Alumni Association voted to change the name, "reflecting the fact that we now count parents, students, and friends as well as alumni as donors in the MIT Annual Fund," according to the FY2009 Report to the President.

From FY2005 to FY2008, MIT's capped donations from alumni donors increased from \$28 million to \$42.3 million, taking a dip in FY2009 to \$32.9 million, in line with the global recession. Alumni donations and participation then increased again through 2011, but both figures dropped again in FY2012, as aforementioned.

These decreases in alumni giving and participation in 2012, according to the CAE report, could in part be attributed to the increasing number of living alumni of record for which institutions have valid addresses, as they may be keeping better records of their alumni.

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#### Solution to Techdoku

			, ,		
5	3	6	4	2	1
6	4	1	5	3	2
4	2	5	3	1	6
1	5	2	6	4	3
2	6	3	1	5	4
3	1	4	2	6	5

#### Solution to Baby Techdoku from page 13

1	3	2
2	1	3
3	2	1

#### Solution to Novice Techdoku from page 13

5	1	2	4	3
3	4	5	2	1
2	3	4	1	5
4	5	1	3	2
1	2	3	5	4

# Solution to Apprentice Techdoku from page 13

 5
 2
 1
 6
 3
 7
 4

 2
 6
 5
 3
 7
 4
 1

 6
 3
 2
 7
 4
 1
 5

 7
 4
 3
 1
 5
 2
 6

 3
 7
 6
 4
 1
 5
 2

 4
 1
 7
 5
 2
 6
 3

 1
 5
 4
 2
 6
 3
 7

#### Solution to Sensei Techdoku from page 13

2 6 8 1 5 3 7 4 9 4 8 1 3 7 5 9 6 2 6 1 3 5 9 7 2 8 4 7 2 4 6 1 8 3 9 5 8 3 5 7 2 9 4 1 6 1 5 7 9 4 2 6 3 8 9 4 6 8 3 1 5 2 7 5 9 2 4 8 6 1 7 3 3 7 9 2 6 4 8 5 1

# Basketball to play for DIII title

#### Men's team earns fifth consecutive tournament bid

By Phil Hess

It was good news for the MIT men's basketball team on Monday when the Engineers heard



tive season that MIT has played in the tournament, which includes a memorable run to the NCAA Final Four a year ago. The Engineers, ranked No. 24 in the final regular season poll by *D3hoops.com*, will play a first round game on Saturday, March 2 at No. 12 ranked St. Mary's College in Maryland.

MIT finished the season with a 20-5 record, the fifth straight and the sixth time in the last eight seasons the Engineers have reached the 20-win plateau. William Tashman '13 led MIT down the stretch, winning three of the final four New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference Player of the

Week awards. Averaging a double-double with his 16.0 ppg and 10.8 rpg averages and the NEWMAC leader in rebounding, Tashman bumped his averages up to 19.6 points and 12.7 rebounds over the last nine games, which included a season best eight-game win streak to close out the regular season. As the MIT career leader in rebounds, Tashman became the first MIT player to reach 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds in a career this season.

Another 1,000-point career scorer, Mitchell H. Kates '13 leads MIT in steals and assists and comes into the NCAA Tournament second on the team in scoring with his 14.8 ppg average. Kates is also the MIT career record holder in assists and steals. Matthew M. Redfield '15 was selected as the NEW-MAC Player of the Week twice this season and was also effective over the last nine games during which he averaged 10.4 points and 9.6 rebounds per game. Justin M. Pedley '16 found a groove with his threepoint shots in MIT's season-ending surge, hitting over 46 percent of his attempts and averaging 10.7 points over the span.

MIT will face a St. Mary's College team that finished 24-3 and is making its fifth overall, and fourth straight, NCAA Tournament appearance. The Seahawks garnered a spot on this year's bracket after capturing the 2013 Capital Athletic Conference championship title with a 79-78 overtime win over Wesley College. St. Mary's owns an 8-4 record in NCAA tournament play and advanced to the Elite Eight in 2011. St. Mary's has four players averaging in double figures in scoring, led by sophomore Nick LaGuerre who averages 13.1 points a game and is shooting 44.8 percent from three-point range and averaging 3.8 assists. Junior Donn Hill, senior Devin Spencer and junior Brendan McFall also average in double-figures for the Seahawks, who are undefeated at home this season at 13-0.

MIT and St. Mary's will square off on Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. in the Michael P. O'Brien Athletics & Recreation Center Arena on the St. Mary's campus.

#### **UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**

#### Friday, March 1

Men's tennis vs. Vassar College 6 p.m. J.B. Carr Tennis Bubble

#### Saturday, March 2

Men's tennis vs. Franklin and Marshall College

1 p.m. J.B. Carr Tennis Bubble

Women's lacrosse vs. University of Southern Maine

1 p.m. Roberts Field

#### **SPORTS SHORT**

#### Men's tennis beats Eastern Nazarene College

At its second match of the 2013 portion of the season, the MIT men's tennis team had a convincing 9-0 victory over Eastern Nazarene College inside the Carr Tennis Bubble at home

on Tuesday afternoon. The Engineers improved to 4-0 on the season, while the Lions fell to 0-2.

In doubles, Edwin H. Zhang '14 and Curtis L. Wu '14 defeated Sam Mckay-Corkum and Sam Son with a score of 8-4. Kevin R. Wang '16 and Tymor Hamamasy '13 won against Tim Luz and Nick Thompson, 8-1. To end doubles, Jeffrey R.

Bu '16 and Dennis A Garcia '16 had an 8-0 win over Tyler Perron and Kevin Paterno.

The Engineers had a score of 3-0 over the Lions going into singles, and got even stronger as the match continued. Zhang started things off with a 6-3, 6-0 win over McKay at the No. 1 position before Larry Pang '13 defeated Son with scores of 6-2, 6-1 and Wu finished off Perron with a 6-0, 6-1 score. Troy Astorino '13 easily won his first set against Luz, 6-1, but had to fight for the win in the second set, walking away with a 7-5 victory. Justin J. Cheung '16 had a 6-2, 6-2 win over Paterno and fellow freshman Robert Shaw '16 easily defeated Thompson with scores of 6-0, 6-0.

MIT wastes little time before heading back to the bubble for a match on Friday, March 1 at  $6:00~\rm{p.m.}$ 

—Charlotte Brackett

#### Men's volleyball takes on Springfield College



MIT was tied against the first ranked Springfield, but eventually lost in the fifth set at a close 12-15.

A random sampling of people you'll meet during a typical dinner at The Tech:

Austin, Course 8 Derek, Course 1 Chris, Course 16 Ian, Course 9 Anne, Course 17 Sarah, Course 2 Joyce, Course **10** Annia, Course **3** Leon, Course 18 Sara, Course 11 Jenny, Course 4 Jack, Course 19 Elijah, Course **5** Vince, Course 12 Stan, Course 20 Deborah, Course **6** Anthony, Course **14** Stephen, 21/CMS Kali, Course 7 Maggie, Course 15 Keith, Course 22

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